



Sheila Dixon

*Mayor,
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Mayor Dixon Cheers Volunteer Emergency Service Provider

Baltimore, MD (July 11, 2007) – Mayor Sheila Dixon was joined by Baltimore City Fire Department Chief William Goodwin to recognize members of Hatzalah of Baltimore for their dedication to public service.

Hatzalah of Baltimore is a volunteer organization established to provide immediate emergency medical care for residents within the Upper Park Heights City Limits. Hatzalah is modeled after similar volunteer organizations in other large cities. Having seen the benefits provided to those communities, members felt similar services could and should be provided to residents in their Northwest Baltimore community as well.

“In every community you can find a group of dedicated individuals who need some assistance to perform their life’s vocation,” said Mayor Dixon. “I am proud to stand with Chief Goodwin to praise the members of Hatzalah of Baltimore for their success.”

Hatzalah of Baltimore is dedicated to taking advantage of those few precious minutes where immediate and proper care may mean the difference between a patient surviving or not surviving. Since Hatzalah volunteers are local, they can be at the scene within one minute of the call coming into dispatchers. Their goal is to have an average on-scene arrival of less than two minutes.

“I am proud of EMS Division Chief Lloyd Cater and the whole EMS team. This is a great example of today’s 21st fire department,” said Chief Goodwin. “We don’t just fight fires anymore. Among many other roles, we are community relations representatives and this is a true example of city and communities working together for a better city.”

Hatzalah volunteers will assist in stabilizing the patient until help from the Baltimore City Fire Department arrives at the scene. Upon arrival of Baltimore EMS resources, Hatzalah volunteers will transfer patient care, yet stand ready to offer assistance until such time as the emergency has passed, or the patient has been transported by Baltimore EMS personnel.

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